United Nations E/C.2/2009/2/Add.5

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
24 September 2008

Original: English

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
2009 regular session
19-28 January 2009

Quadrennial reports of the period 2004-2007 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31*

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

08-51891 (E) 211108

1. Al-Haq

(Special; 2000)

Part I. Introduction

i. Al-Haq is a Palestinian human rights organization located in Ramallah, West Bank. The organization was established in 1979 to protect and promote human rights and the rule of law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Al-Haq is committed to the uniform application of the universal principles of human rights regardless of the identity of the perpetrator or victim of abuse. In order to meet these goals, the organization:

- Conducts and disseminates legal and field research based on international human rights and humanitarian law;
- Monitors and documents human rights violations through an extensive database;
- Houses the only public library specialized in human rights in the West Bank; and
- Provides training on international humanitarian law.

Through these activities, Al-Haq strives to bring to an end abuses committed by Israeli and Palestinian authorities. In addition, through the reinforcement of the rule of law and the promotion of international legal standards, the organization contributes to the development of a transparent and democratic civil society in Palestine.

ii. There have been no changes within the organization since the last report.

Part II – Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i. Participation in the work of Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, major conferences and other United Nations meetings

Al-Haq has participated in a range of meetings before various United Nations fora, including regular meetings such as those of the former Commission on Human Rights and the newly created Human Rights Council. A few examples of Al-Haq's participation and what was achieved through this participation are below:

1) Fourth Regular Session of the Human Rights Council, 12-30 March 2007, Geneva Switzerland.

During the Fourth Regular Session of the Human Rights Council, Al-Haq prepared the following joint written interventions with nine other Palestinian NGOs: 1) "Above the law: Israel's impunity for violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory" and 2) "Forty years of increasing facts on the ground: New actions urgently required by the Human Rights Council to prevent the

preclusion of the Palestinian right to self-determination." Additionally, Al-Haq delivered a joint oral intervention (with the International Federation for Human Rights and the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights – both in Special Consultative Status) on 23 March in relation to the report delivered on 22 March by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 (Mr. John Dugard).

The written and oral interventions delivered by Al-Haq during the Fourth Regular Session of the Human Rights Council are an example of the primary means through which Al-Haq participates in the work of the United Nations. Other activities that Al-Haq carried out while attending the Fourth Regular Session of the Human Rights Council which are representative of the kind of work Al-Haq usually carries out while attending sessions of the Human Rights Council included: a meeting with the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms while Countering Terrorism in anticipation of the Special Rapporteur's forthcoming visit to Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory; and meetings with Geneva-based NGOs which are regularly present at the Human Rights Council in order to learn about the latest developments in relation to the refinement of the Human Rights Council's working methods, possibilities for NGO participation and the review and rationalization of Special Procedures mandates. The latter meetings and the information provided therein assisted Al-Haq to be able to engage in relation to these developments at a later stage.

2) Fifth Regular Session of the Human Rights Council, 11-18 June 2007, Geneva, Switzerland.

Al-Haq hosted a parallel event (13 June 2007) at the Human Rights Council titled: "Forty Years of Israeli Occupation of the Palestinian Territory: An Assessment of the Facts on the Ground." This event gave Al-Haq the opportunity to highlight one of its key advocacy priorities during 2007 – raising awareness about the human rights violations that have emanated from 40 years of the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian Territory. Al-Haq hopes to hold more such parallel events in the future as it is a good opportunity to reach constituencies to whom we do not normally have access.

These examples are indicative of the work Al-Haq endeavoured to do when it had the opportunity to attend Human Rights Council/Human Rights Commission sessions from 2004 to 2007.

ii. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Al-Haq also cooperated with United Nations committees and other bodies, in particular, the United Nations Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Specific cooperation included:

1) The Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People, 25 May – 8 June 2004, Cairo, Egypt. Al-Haq sent one of its field workers to provide oral testimony concerning human rights violations committed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

2) The Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People, 25 June – 9 July 2005, Amman, Jordan. Al-Haq sent one of its field workers to provide oral testimony concerning human rights violations committed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

3) Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, 69th Session, 31 July-18 August 2006, Geneva, Switzerland. Al-Haq participated in the submission of a joint parallel report to Israel's 13th periodic report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination entitled "Israel's Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination: Institutional Discrimination affecting persons without "Jewish Nationality".

4) On 2-3 August 2006 (same session as above), Al-Haq participated in joint Israeli/Palestinian NGO presentation before the Committee in relation to Israel's 13th periodic report to the 69th Session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination which was postponed to the Committee's 70th Session 19 February-9 March 2007. There was no overall title to the presentation before the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, but Al-Haq's contribution focused on the following issues: discrimination in relation to freedom of movement (including the permit system, the Wall and the separate road system) in the West Bank; the discriminatory Israeli policy on family unification; discriminatory physical and administrative measures in East Jerusalem; and discriminatory measures in the West Bank city of Hebron, including in relation to the seam zone and the separation barrier. Al-Haq would like to use this as an example of the type of expected achievement that is the result of its cooperation with United Nations bodies. The process of preparing for the review of Israel under the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was very beneficial from the point of view of presenting an opportunity for Israeli, Palestinian and international human rights organizations to work together on common advocacy. This was viewed as a highly successful collaborative process by all that should be modelled for the review of Israel under successive human rights treaty bodies.

5) Human Rights Committee, 89th Session, 12-30 March 2007, United Nations Headquarters, New York, Al-Haq prepared written comments on the Human Rights Committee's draft General Comment No. 14 concerning "equality before courts and tribunals and to a fair trial".

6) The Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People, 21 July – 4 August 2007, Amman, Jordan. Al-Haq sent one of its field workers to provide oral testimony concerning human rights violations committed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

In addition, Al-Haq regularly submits letters and provides information to various United Nations officials such as the Secretary-General, High Commissioner for Human Rights, Special Representative to the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict, Human Rights Council President, United Nations Coordinator of the Middle East Peace Process and bodies, such as Security Council, the General Assembly, and the Special Procedures of the Commission on Human Rights/Human Rights Council. Such interventions are frequently in response to changing events on the ground.

iii. Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of the internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals, which now form the basis of the global agenda for the 21st century

(a) and (b) Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals and Activities in Support of Global Principles

As an organization seeking to promote and protect human rights and rule of law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, much of Al-Haq's work serves to support the Millennium Development Goals and Global Principles. United Nations human rights treaties and the principles enshrined in them are the primary foundations of Al-Haq's work, as are key General Assembly and Security Council resolutions. While it is difficult to isolate particular activities Al-Haq undertakes in support of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, our documentation and advocacy work encompasses the implementation of certain of the Millennium Development Goals in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territory (i.e., the eradication of poverty and hunger, achievement of universal primary education, reduction of child mortality, improvement of maternal health, and ensuring environmental sustainability).

2. American Civil Liberties Union

(Special; 1996)

Part I – Introduction

i. Aims and purpose of the ACLU: The mission of the ACLU is to maintain and advance civil liberties as embodied in the Bill of Rights of the Constitution of United States of America and ratified treaties, including freedom of speech, association, press, religion, speech, and the rights to the franchise, to due process of law, and the equal protection of the law for all people throughout the United States of America and its possessions, or subject to its jurisdiction, wholly without partisanship. To achieve these aims the ACLU engages in litigation, public education, documentation, and lobbying.

ii. Changes that have had a significant impact: *ACLU Structure* – In 2004 the ACLU created a permanent Human Rights Program with a mission to ensure that the government of United States of America complies with universal human rights principles, in addition to the Constitution of United States of America. The Program uses human rights strategies and the human rights framework to complement existing ACLU advocacy on national security, immigrants' rights, women's rights and racial justice issues. In addition to the creation of the Human Rights Program, the ACLU has also created a Racial Justice Project, a Program on the Freedom of Religion and Belief, and a National Security Project. The addition of these projects has allowed the ACLU to become more deeply involved in the substantive work in these areas. Finally, the human rights program engages in international advocacy through the publication of shadow reports, side events, and advocacy before various United Nations treaty bodies and at the Human Rights Council.

ACLU Membership – There has been an increase in the membership of the ACLU since the submission of our last figures. Current ACLU individual membership is 434,242. ACLU membership continues to include persons from all 50 United States as well as Puerto Rico and Guam.

Changes in ACLU funding – There has been an increase in the funding of the ACLU since the submission of our last figures. The total assets of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, Inc., as of 31 March 2007, are $319,193,234. Total liabilities of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, Inc., as of 31 March 2007, are $63,420,812. Total support and revenue of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, Inc., as of 31 March 2007, is $67,647,755. Total expenses of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, Inc., as of 31 March 2007, are $56,121,433. The total assets of the American Civil Liberties Union, Inc., as of 31 March 2007, are $12,934,359. Total liabilities of the American Civil Liberties Union, Inc., as of 31 March 2007, are $12,934,359. Total support and revenue of the American Civil Liberties Union, Inc., as of 31 March 2007, is $30,074,160. Total expenses of the American Civil Liberties Union, Inc., as of 31 March 2007, are $31,179,694.

Part II – Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other human rights meetings

1) "36th Session of the Committee Against Torture (CAT)" 1-19 May 2006, Geneva, Switzerland. The ACLU sent a delegation to Geneva for the United States' review before the CAT, where the ACLU delegation lobbied members and discussed the finding from the ACLU shadow report, "Enduring Abuse," on the United States report to the CAT.

2) "87th Session of the Human Rights Committee (HRC)" 10 - 28 July 2006, Geneva, Switzerland. The ACLU sent a delegation to Geneva for the United States' review before the HRC, where the ACLU delegation lobbied members and discussed the finding from the ACLU shadow report, "Dimming the Beacon of Freedom," on the United States report to the HRC.

3) "49th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women" 28 February – 11 March 2005, "Beijing +10 Side Panel Conversation" 8 March 2005, Church Center for the United Nations, New York, United States of America. The ACLU co-sponsored and participated on the panel.

4) "51st Session of the Commission on the Status of Women" 26 February – 9 March 2007, Parallel Event: "Improving the Rights of Incarcerated Girls" 6 March 2007, Church Center for the United Nations, New York, United States of America. The ACLU sponsored and participated on the panel.

ii. Cooperation with United Nations Bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at headquarters

1) *Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism* – The ACLU assisted with his documentation trip to the United States of America and provided background materials to the Special Rapporteur for his report, dated 25 October 2007, to the Human Rights Council. The ACLU also sponsored a side event with the Special Rapporteur during the Human Rights Council's Resumed 6th Session, 13 December 2007.

iii. Activities in support of global principles

1) *Convention on the Elimination of All for of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)* – The ACLU has been involved in the efforts to see United States ratification of CEDAW. This work has included lobbying of United States Senators and public education campaigns, including a week-long campaign during the week of Mother's Day, May 13-19, 2007, in the United States in 2007 in which we engaged ACLU affiliates and activists through online actions.

2) *Human Rights Workshops* – Since 2004 the ACLU has organized workshops and trainings focused on educating United States based lawyers and activists on how to implement the international human rights framework into their domestic United States work. The ACLU held 8 workshops and trainings between 2004 - 2007 on issues including, immigration detention, police brutality, immigrant workers rights, juvenile justice, felon disfranchisement, juvenile detention (specifically relating to girls), racial profiling, as well as trainings on shadow report writing and the issue of international law in United States courts. All conferences included United Nations human rights system 101 presentations as well as presentations on the specific United Nations human rights treaties that apply to each issue.

3. Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility

(Special; 2004)

PART I. Introduction

(i) **Aims and purposes:** Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility (CPSR) is a global organization promoting the responsible use of computer technology. Incorporated in 1983 (following discussions and organizing that began in 1981), CPSR educates policymakers and the public on a wide range of issues. CPSR has incubated numerous projects such as Privaterra, the Public Sphere Project, the Electronic Privacy Information Center, the 21st Century Project, the Civil Society Project, and the Computers, Freedom and Privacy Conference. Originally founded by United States computer scientists, CPSR now has members in 26 countries.

(ii) **Changes in bylaws:** Changes have been made to CPSR's bylaws to improve governance of the organization. On 2 April 2004, the office of Chairperson of the Board was eliminated. The officers of CPSR are now President, a Vice President a Secretary, and a Treasurer (Section 8.1). On

25 August 2004 the method for setting elections for Directors was changed to ensure that 1/3 of Directors are replaced in any given year (Section 6.3). In the CPSR election on June 2006, members voted to change the size of the board to 8 to 10 at large directors and a maximum board size of 14 total including special directors. Special directors are appointed positions in CPSR (Section 5.1). CPSR bylaws are maintained publicly at our website. Changes to the bylaws of CPSR are maintained also in our website.

(iii) **Changes in geographic presence:** CPSR's geographic presence has changed to improve the efficiency of its operations. In January 2004, CPSR moved its office from Palo Alto to San Francisco, both in California, United States of America. In March 2008, CPSR began operating without a physical office.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

A. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and in Support of Global Principles: CPSR members have participated in activities over the past four years related to the MDGs and Global Principles. CPSR's primary activities in this respect were framed by the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). CPSR members authored and co-authored publications, participated in appointed positions to United Nations bodies, and organized meetings, all having development aspects. Details of publications are given in section II D (1) through (7). Details of meetings organized are given in sections II F. (1) through (7) below. Details of appointed positions are given in sections II E. (1) and (2) below. CPSR members contributed organizational effort, research and writing to the authoring of the Civil Society Declaration for WSIS, which articulated support for MDGs and Global Principles in the context of the development of the information society.

B. Particiation in the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS): CPSR delegations participated in the preparatory processes and both summits of WSIS (2002 - 2005). Activities for this reporting period were: PrepCom-1: 24-26 June 2004, Hammamet (Tunisia); PrepCom-2: 17-25 February 2005, Geneva (Switzerland); and PrepCom-3: 19-30 September 2005, Geneva (Switzerland) and 13-15 November 2005, Tunis (Tunisia). Second Phase of WSIS, Tunis, 16-18 November 2005. CPSR members participated as observers in plenary sessions; and as organizers and contributors within the Civil Society working groups on Internet governance, education, human rights, among others. Details of participation as observers and in meetings are given in sections II G. (1) through (15) below.

C. Participation in post-WSIS activities: CPSR members contributed to the establishment of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) and continued to participate in post-WSIS processes and bodies related to it. Details of IGF and post-WSIS processes are given below in sections II E. (1) and (2) below. Various members continue to participate in bodies and processes within: the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

D. Contributions to United Nations Publications and other publications prepared for United Nations Events by CPSR members: **(1) William J. Drake.** "Encouraging Implementation of the WSIS Principles on Internet Governance Procedures." In The Power of Ideas: Internet Governance in a Global Multistakeholder Environment. Marketing fur Deutschland GmbH, 2007, pp. 271-280. **(2)** William J. Drake. "Collective Learning in the World Summit on the Information Society." In The World Summit on the Information Society: Moving from the Past into the Future. New York: United Nations Information and Communication Technology Taskforce, 2005, pp. 135-146. **(3)** William J. Drake (ed.) Reforming Internet Governance: Perspectives from the United Nations Working Group on Internet Governance. United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force, 2005, **(4)** Daniel Stauffacher, William J. Drake, Paul Currion, and Julia Steinberger. Information and Communications Technology for Peace (ICT4P): The Role of ICT in Preventing, Responding to and Recovering from Conflict. United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Taskforce, 2005, **(5)** William J. Drake. "Reframing Internet Governance Discourse: Fifteen Baseline Propositions." In Internet Governance: A Grand Collaboration. United Nations Information and Communication Technology Taskforce, 2004, pp. 122-161. **(6)** William McIver, Jr. (2005). An Examination of the Scope and Parameters of Governance in the Information Society, Position Paper, Canadian Commission for UNESCO, Paving the Road to Tunis - WSIS II: Canada's Civil Society Views on the Geneva Plan of Action and the Prospects for Phase II, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 13-15 May 2005. **(7)** William McIver, Jr. (2003). "A Community Informatics for the Information Society." In Communicating in the Information Society. United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD).

E. Appointments to United Nations bodies of CPSR members. William Drake, a past president of CPSR, was appointed to two positions in United Nations bodies: **(1)** the Global Alliance for ICT and Development, 2005 – present, including its Start-Up Group, 2005-2006, and its Panel of High-Level Advisors, 2006-present; **(2)** United Nations Working Group on Internet Governance; 2004 – 2005; Member, appointed by the United Nations Secretary-General.

F. Organization of events at United Nations Meetings by CPSR members: **(1)** Presentations "Toward a Development Agenda for Internet Governance"; "Fulfilling the Mandate of the IGF" at the IGF, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil 12-15 November 2007. **(2)** Program committee member, Global Internet Governance Academic Network Annual Symposium held at the IGF, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; 11 November 2007. **(3)** Program committee member, Global Internet Governance Academic Network Annual Symposium held at the IGF, Athens, Greece; 29 October 2006. **(4)** Parallel event at WSIS, Reforming Internet Governance: Perspectives from the United Nations Working Group on Internet Governance, CPSR/Executive Secretariat of the United Nations Working Group on Internet Governance, Tunis; 16-18 November 2005; **(5)** Parallel event at WSIS: "The Role of Computer Science and Engineering Professions in Achieving WSIS Goals." Tunis, Tunisia, 16-18 November 2005. **(6)** CPSR side events at the Third Preparatory Committee meeting for WSIS, "The IGF Function" and "The Internet Governance Oversight Function," Geneva, Switzerland 18-30 September 2005. **(7)** CPSR parallel event at WSIS: "Global Governance of ICT: Public Interest Considerations," Geneva, Switzerland; 9 December 2003.

G. Participation and presentations at United Nations Meetings by CPSR member (selected): **(1)** Presentation "A Global, Development-friendly Information Economy: Issues for Multilateral Dialogue," UNCTAD's Pre-UNCTAD XII Event: Science, Technology, Innovation and ICTs for Development, Geneva, Switzerland; 6 December 2007. **(2)** Chair, "Toward a Development Agenda for Internet Governance;" Chair, Internet Governance Caucus, "Fulfilling the Mandate of the IGF;" and presentations "The Distributed Global Governance of Cyber security" and "The Global Culture of Cyber security," IGF, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; 12-15 November 2007. **(3)** Paper "Toward a Development Agenda for Internet Governance," Global Internet Governance Academic Network (GigaNet)'s Second Annual Symposium, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; 11 November 2007. **(4)** Discussant, United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development/Global Alliance for ICT and Development event, Information Society: "New Perspectives for Post-WSIS Scenarios?" Geneva, Switzerland; 5 July 2007. **(5)** Presentation "ICT Global Governance and Pro-Poor Development," Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO)'s, 1st Civil Society Development Forum 2007, Geneva, Switzerland; 28-30 June 2007. **(6)** Presentation Informal Consultation between ITU and Civil Society on the Participation of All Relevant Stakeholders, ITU, Geneva, Switzerland; 18 May 2007. **(7)** Presentation "Toward a Global Culture of Cyber security: Priorities and Principles," workshop on Global Culture of Cyber security; and presentation "Toward a Framework Convention on Internet Governance Decision Making Procedures," presentation, "Framework Convention," First Meeting of the IGF: Internet Governance for Development, Athens, Greece; 30 October – 2 November 2006. **(8)** Organizer and chairperson, Global Internet Governance Academic Network (GigaNet): First Annual Symposium, Athens, Greece; 29 October 2006. **(9)** Presentation at ITU workshop: What Rules for IP-Enabled Next Generation Networks? Geneva, Switzerland; 23-24 March 2006. **(10)** Presentation at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development workshop, The Future of the Internet, Paris, France; 8 March 2006. **(11)** Parallel events organized and chaired at WSIS, Tunis; 16-18 November 2005: Danish Institute for Human Rights, 15 November; Diplo Foundation/Global Knowledge Partnership, "The Internet Governance Debate during the WSIS Process," 15 November; CPSR/Executive Secretariat of the United Nations Working Group on Internet Governance, "Reforming Internet Governance: Perspectives from the United Nations Working Group on Internet Governance," 16 November; Government of Switzerland parallel event, ICT4Peace, 17 November; Startup Group Meeting on Global Alliance for ICTs and Development, 17 November. **(12)** Various meetings organized, meetings chaired, and presentations at PrepCom 3, Tunis Phase of WSIS, Geneva, 18-29 September 2005 **(13)** Chairperson and discussant, Workshop on Internet Governance, ITU, Geneva, Switzerland; 26-27-February 2004. **(14)** Training session for developing country delegations to WSIS: "WTO Rules and Global Electronic Trade," United Nations Development Programme's series, Geneva; 12 December 2003. **(15)** Presentation "Overview of the Issues," Global Governance of ICT: Public Interest Considerations, CPSR workshop during WSIS, Geneva, Switzerland; 9 December 2003.

4. Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights

(Special; 1996)

PART I. Introduction

Aims and purposes of the organization: The mission of The Advocates for Human Rights (The Advocates) is to implement international human rights standards in order to promote civil society and reinforce the rule of law. By involving volunteers in research, education, and advocacy, we build broad constituencies in the United States of America and select global communities. The Advocates is dedicated to promoting and protecting international human rights, and the success of The Advocates is based upon its ability to cultivate volunteers, build strategic alliances with local and international organizations, and sustain its innovative programs that include investigation, representation, training and education, to offer concrete opportunities to promote international human rights. Since its inception, the organization has successfully diversified its work, built an impressive support and volunteer base and established cooperative relationships with the United Nations, as well as other non-governmental organizations working to protect human rights. Each year, hundreds of volunteers – including teachers, lawyers, artists, students, doctors, marketing and technology experts, translators, and others – generously share their time and energy. With the help of hundreds of volunteers, The Advocates has produced more than 81 reports documenting human rights practices in more than 22 countries.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

1) Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights: Representatives attended and presented oral and written interventions for the promotion and the protection of Human Rights at the 56th Session, 26 July – 12 August 2004 and the 57th Session 25 July -- 13 August 2005, Geneva, Switzerland.

2) Human Rights Council: Representatives attended the 1st session, 19-30 June 2006 and the 5th session and organizational meeting for the 6th session, 1-22 June 2007, Geneva, Switzerland.

3) Committee Against Torture (CAT): Representatives attended and participated in non-governmental organization (NGO) briefings for members considering the United States periodic report to CAT at the 35th Session, 15 November 2005 and 36th Session, 5 & 8 May 2006, Geneva, Switzerland.

4) Human Rights Committee: Representatives attended and participated in NGO briefing for members considering the United States periodic report on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) at the 86th Session of the Human Rights Committee, March 13-31, 2006, New York, United States and 87th Session of the Committee, 10-28 July, 2006, Geneva, Switzerland.

5) Treaty Body inter-committee meetings: Representatives attended and presented a paper on treaty body reform 19-22 June 2007, Geneva, Switzerland.

6) Treaty Body Reform Brainstorming Meetings: Representatives attended meetings sponsored by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to discuss treaty body working methods 14-16 July, 2006, Malbun, Liechtenstein and 12 November 2007, Geneva, Switzerland.

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

1) United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Torture: Received funding in 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007 to provide legal services for victims of torture in the Upper Midwest region of the United States.

2) United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery: Received funding in 2007 to provide free K-8 education to children at risk of child labor in Sankhu, Nepal.

3) United Nations Country Team in Georgia (including United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Resident Coordinator in Georgia): Authored report Domestic Violence and Child Abuse in Georgia: An Assessment of Current Standings of Law and Practice Regarding Domestic Violence and Child Abuse in Georgia and Recommendations for Future United Nations Country Team Involvement May, 2007. UNFPA funded The Advocates' report.

iii) Initiatives Undertaken to Support International Development Goals

The organization contributed to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Nepal, Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the United States. Major activities undertaken were the following:

Goal 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Target 2. Halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

ACTIONS: 1) Implementation of school kitchen and lunch program = 1 school;

2) Children fed a daily balanced meal at school = 225

Goal 2. Achieve universal primary education

Target 3. Ensure children will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.

ACTIONS: (a) Children registered in free primary school = 225; (b) Teachers trained = 10; (c) Classrooms built or renovated = 8; (d) School supplies provided to primary students = 225; (e) Individuals trained on the right to education = 350

Goal 3. Promote gender equality and empower women

Target 4: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education. Actions: (a) Girls registered in free primary school = 88; (b) Female teachers trained = 3; (c) School policy and curriculum of gender parity implemented = 1 school; (d) Female 8th grade graduates attending further schooling = 2; (e) Individuals trained on the rights of the girl-child = 200; (f) Promoted women's human rights by working to eliminate violence against women and improve maternal health; (g) Conducted fact-finding and reporting on violence against women in the United States (2004), Tajikistan (2006) and Georgia (2007); (h) Trained police and judges in Bulgaria (2006, 2007); (i) Maintained Stop Violence Against Women website (www.stopvaw.org), a forum for information, advocacy and change; (j) Individuals trained through Journey to Safety, an artistic stage presentation of the challenges facing battered refugee and immigrant women when negotiating legal, medical and government systems = 2500.

Goal 4. Reduce child mortality

Target 5: Reduce the under-five mortality rate. Actions: Individuals trained on rights of children, including preventable infant mortality and health = 300.

Goal 6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases

Target 7: Halt and reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS. Actions: Individuals trained on Asian women and HIV/AIDS = 80.

Goal 7. Ensure environmental sustainability

Target 10: Halve the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation. Actions: (a) School sanitary services established = 1 school/4 toilets; (b) children instructed on basic hygiene = 225; (c) Safe water source established for hygiene purposes = 1 school; (d) Health and wellness checkups performed for children = 225; (e) Participants trained on right to health in the United States = 120.

Other activities: 1) The United Nations: Why it Matters to you: 13 September 2005, Minneapolis, United States. Sponsored a lecture by Gillian Martin Sorenson, Senior Adviser and National Advocate at the United Nations Foundation and former Special Adviser for Public Policy for former Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and head of the Office of External Relations for Secretary-General Kofi Annan. 2) Protecting the Unprotected: Rights and Representation: 2-3 June, 2005, Minneapolis, United States. Sponsored a conference on women, refugee, religious minority and indigenous people's rights. Mr. Andrew Painter, Senior Protection Officer for the Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) presented at the conference.

5. Peaceways: Young General Assembly

(Special; 2000)

PART I. Introduction

Peaceways-Young General Assembly aims to serve as a voice for people under 18 in international affairs and to promote the goals of the United Nations through Child Participation.

For the years 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007 the goals and the scope of work of Peaceways-Young General Assembly remained the same as it was in 2000 when it was granted United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Special Consultative Status. The only change during 2004-2007 came 29 December 2007. The Peaceways-Young General Assembly Secretariat was temporarily moved from Wisconsin to California because the Wisconsin Secretariat Coordinator has serious health problems. Headquarters was permanently moved to Australia 13 June 2008.

There has been no change in the mission, structure or Charter of the organization.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in United Nations meetings

1. **Department Public Information/NGO Annual Conferences at United Nations Headquarters:** Five Peaceways-Young General Assembly (YGA) representatives, attended the 57th Annual DPI/NGO Conference "Millennium Development Goals: Civil Society Takes Action" 8-10 September 2004; New York and spoke at 3 Midday Workshops about how Child Participation is vital to achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). At the 58th Annual DPI/NGO Conference "Our Challenge: Voices for Peace, Partnership and Renewal" 6-8 September 2005, The United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) asked YGA to coordinate the Midday Workshop 7 September "Youth Engagement in the Peace Process." The workshop promoted youth and Child Participation to further the achievement of MDGs. At the 59th Annual DPI/NGO Conference "Unfinished Business: Effective Partnerships for Human Security and Sustainable Development" 6-8 September 2006, Julia Walsh, a YGA representative, spoke at a Midday Workshop about the value of partnering with children in reaching United Nations goals. Temidayo Israel-Abdulai, Salifu Kamara and Julia Walsh, YGA Representatives, attended the 60th Annual DPI/NGO Conference "Climate Change: How It Impacts Us All" 5 -7 September 2007, New York and spoke at a Midday Workshop about how Child Participation can impact climate change.

2. Bertha Chauluka and Chisomo Singano, YGA representatives, attended the United Nations 10-Year Review of the World Program of Action for Youth 5-6 October 2005, United Nations Headquarters, New York, as part of the official Malawian delegation to the General Assembly and spoke at youth sessions about the value of Child Participation to governments in achieving the World Program of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond.

3. Ibrahim Adamu, YGA representative, sponsored by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)-Nigeria, spoke about the value of Child Participation in water projects to achieve MDGs and A World Fit for Children health goals at the Second Children's World Water Forum 16-22 March 2006, Camino Real Hotel, Mexico City, Mexico.

A World Fit for Children is the title of the outcome document approved by the United Nations General Assembly in May 2002 at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Children (UNGASS).

4. Bertha Chauluka, a YGA representative, delivered a statement written by YGA members via Email to the Committee on the Rights of the Child Day of General Discussion on "The Right of the Child to be Heard" 15 September 2006, Geneva, Switzerland urging NGOs and governments to develop positive ways to organize Child Participation to successfully achieve full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as MDGs and A World Fit for Children targets.

5. Eszter Kis, a YGA representative sponsored by UNICEF-Hungary, attended the UNICEF Children's Forum 9-10 December and the United Nations General Assembly Special Session: World Fit for Children +5 Review 11-12 December 2007, United Nations Headquarters, New York and spoke about the value of Child Participation to achieve the 21 A World Fit for Children targets at General Assembly side events.

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies

1. The Young General Assembly Olympic Truce International Campaign was conducted from 15 November 2003 – 6 July 2004 to support the United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/58/6 to re-establish the ancient Grecian Olympic Truce Period. Young General Assembly Member Organizations in 36 countries (Olympic Truce International Campaign was conducted in: Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Georgia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Italy, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Lithuania, Malawi, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America, carried out media campaigns, initiated projects and held marches to educate people about how to prevent violence.

2. Julia Walsh and Elizabeth Broad, YGA representatives, worked with the NGO Committee on Youth to organize the Youth Party for Peace Concert/Rally 18 April 2004, Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, New York and spoke at the event to urge people to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

3. On 9 December 2004, at British Broadcasting (BBC) studios in London, United Kingdom, Temidayo Israel-Abdulai, a YGA representative, appeared on international television with UNICEF Director Carol Bellamy and actress Vanessa Redgrave to launch the UNICEF publication "State of the World's Children 2004" and spoke about YGA successes in furthering UNICEF goals and the 21 A World Fit for Children targets.

iii) Initiatives undertaken to support the Millennium Development Goals, the 21 targets of A World Fit for Children, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child

1. Fifth Annual Young General Assembly Session 31 July-14 August 2004 at the National Centre for Women Development, Abuja, Nigeria was attended by 110 delegates from all over Africa, Europe and North America to learn about the United Nations goals, programs, and structure. The participants wrote 105 project plans for young people to help achieve the 21 targets of A World Fit for Children, enforce the Convention on the Rights of the Child and to achieve the MDGs.

2. In 2005-2006, at the request of UNICEF, a YGA Committee wrote chapters to add to the 105 project plans written in 2004 for children to assist their governments in achieving the 21 targets in A World Fit for Children. The 105 page booklet: "Let's Do It! Let's Have a World Fit for Children!!!" made it clear that achieving the 21 targets is a vital step in achieving the MDGs.

3. The Sixth Annual Young General Assembly Session: Uniting Children to Stop Child Abuse 29 July – 7 August, 2005, at Malawi Postal Conference Centre, Blantyre, Malawi, was hosted by Joyce Banda, Minister of Gender, Child Welfare and Community Services. The participants wrote a statement promoting the value of Child Participation in achieving United Nations goals and met with His Excellency, Dr. Bingu wa Mutharika, President of the Malawi, who agreed to distribute the children's statement at the United Nations General Assembly during the 10-year review of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond.

4. The Seventh Annual Young General Assembly Session: YGA 2006 ONLINE 1 April – 1 July, 2006 was held on the internet. Participants wrote two documents supporting the Convention on the Rights of the Child which were sent to the Committee on the Rights of the Child in Geneva, Switzerland) ideas to include in the Committee's upcoming General Comment about the Right of the Child to Participate; and (ii) ideas to revise the Committee's Periodic Report Form to include ways to monitor member states' activities to increase Child Participation.

5. During YGA ONLINE 2007: What is Needed to Achieve A World Fit for Children? 28 April-15 June 2007, on the internet, participants wrote a statement which was distributed at the United Nations General Assembly Commemorative high level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children, 11-12 December 2007, United Nations Headquarters, New York. A review was held to examine the progress member states had made towards achieving the 21 A World Fit for Children Targets five years after the document was approved.

iv) Activities in Support of Global Principles

1. In 2007 Peaceways-Young General Assembly contributed to the Committee on the Rights of the Child survey for its writing of the General Comment on Convention on the Rights of the Child Article 12, the Right of the Child to Participate.

2. The YGA believes that Child Participation is needed to fully achieve MDGs, the 21 targets of A World Fit for Children and to fully implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Its member organizations are working year around on local projects to achieve these goals. Many projects are initiated on the YGA internationally celebrated Hear the Children Day of Peace on 21 September (International Day of Peace). On this day adults and children come together to form partnerships to begin projects together to build a peaceful and sustainable community as envisioned in the United Nations Charter Preamble.